victories as head basketball coach at Central High School in Allentown, FL, located in my district in northwest Florida.

Coach Mac himself graduated in 1969 from Allentown School, one of three schools that would come to be known as Central High School. After graduating, he went on to honorably serve his country for 4 years in the United States Air Force at Eglin Air Force Base, not far from home. During his time in the service, Tony was able to come back to Allentown and watch the basketball games, developing a stronger desire to return and coach at the spirited school.

After the Air Force, Tony stayed in northwest Florida and attended the University of West Florida, graduating from there in 1977. It was shortly after this graduation that he returned to become the Junior Varsity Basketball coach at his alma mater of Allentown High School. A year later, he became head coach, a position he stayed with for three seasons. Tony left for rival Milton High School to serve as their head basketball coach for the following season.

Tony's heart was always with his alma mater, though, and soon enough he returned once again to Allentown School. By the time the 1985–86 basketball season kicked off with Coach at the helm, Allentown School had consolidated with Chumuckla School and Munson School, and the high school sections became Central High School, and under this name Tony would coach his students for the next 22 seasons, having a banner career in the process.

For six seasons during those early years at Central, Coach Mac was in charge of both the boys' and girls' teams, and was able to bring the girls' team their first winning season. Every day was another challenge to better his students, and many acknowledge how well he motivated them. What many rival schools noted was Coach Mac's ability to turn a small squad into a basketball powerhouse. While many other schools had teams of several more players, Central's smaller squads continued to play tireless games. While the energy that Coach Mac put into his players was a great factor, so was the energy they gave back to their dedicated coach. Coach's energy also carries into the classroom, where he teaches both geography and American history. It would be difficult to find someone more committed to helping students than Tony McDonald.

Reaching 500 career wins was a milestone in itself, so it was with even more excitement that Coach Mac reached his 600th career win on January 16, 2007. Given the devotion to his players on and off the court, it should not come as a big surprise. During his time as head coach, he has led the team to nine playoff appearances and five district championships. In fact, a sixth district championship this season is not out of the realm of possibility.

Coach McDonald has set a high standard in his dedication to his work and his devotion to his students. A benchmark has been established for many other high school coaches. Coaches serve as role models for students, and Coach Mac has without a doubt been a great role model for those that played for him. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is a great honor for me to congratulate Coach Tony ''Mac'' McDonald for over 20 years of dedication to his high school students and an amazing 600 career wins as head coach of Central High School.

## IN MEMORY OF WALTER SHERIDAN HARPOOL

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Walter Sheridan Harpool of Denton, Texas, who passed away at 84 years of age on Sunday, January 28, 2007.

Mr. Walter Harpool, also known as ''Pinky'', was born in Hebron, Texas on February 14, 1922 to Josephine and R.T. Harpool. The family moved to Denton, Texas in 1928, and later started the company Harpool Seed, Inc. Created in 1962, Harpool Fertilizer Co. was the first independent bulk blending plant for fertilizer in Texas.

Mr. Harpool served in the Army Air Force during World War II. After training at Santa Ana, King City and Lancaster, CA, he received his wings at Phoenix, AZ. He became a flight instructor at Perrin Field, Sherman, TX, and then took B–18 training at Sebring, FL. Mr. Harpool was later stationed at Langley Field as a pilot for radar students.

Due to his dedication and passion for agriculture and agribusiness, he was honored as Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture in 1987, and in 1998 was name Conservation Businessman of the Year. He had a fine interest in farm production and improvement, and regularly donated materials such as seed and fertilizer for agriculture research and demonstrations across the state of Texas. Not only did he serve as Chairman of the Denton County Program Building Committee, where he worked with numerous crop and livestock committees, but he also served on the State Board of Agriculture during Governor Bill Clements administration. Mr. Walter Harpool was an avid supporter of many civic functions, such as the Denton Youth Fair, the North Texas State Fair, United Way, and the Denton Chamber of Commerce.

In 1987 Mr. Harpool bought and renovated an old train caboose, which he used as his office. He enjoyed the occasions on which his friends and customers would drop by to visit him. His outstanding and honest character continued to delight those he came into contact with. Despite his life as a strong businessman, taking care of his family held the utmost importance to Mr. Harpool. He showered them with love and devotion, and took pride in providing for them.

Mr. Walter Sheridan Harpool is survived by his wife, Rose Harpool, his son, Walter S. Harpool, Jr., and his brother, Tom Harpool. I extend my sincerest sympathies to his family and friends, and I am honored to have been able to represent such a remarkable man.

## HONORING THE DEDICATION OF THE KEISER FAMILY

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and commitment of the Keiser family. Evelyn Keiser was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and graduated from Temple University. She was one of the first women in the United States to receive a Bachelors Degree in Medical Technology.

Evelyn Keiser moved to south Florida in 1961 and co-founded Keiser College in 1977. Art & Belinda Keiser, along with Evelyn, have continued to serve our community by providing superior education through Keiser College, now known as Keiser University.

The Keiser Family continues to contribute to Broward County and the State of Florida, not only through their educational institutions, but also through philanthropy. Keiser University will celebrate their 30th Anniversary in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I proclaim January 31, 2007, as Keiser University Day in the 23rd Congressional District.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF PERCY LAVON JULIAN

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2007*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today we honor one of the most accomplished scientists of the twentieth century; a man who would not be deterred by racial bias. Today we honor the life and research of Dr. Percy Julian.

Dr. Julian worked tirelessly, and won acclaim for his work in organic chemistry. A brilliant chemist, Dr. Julian developed a treatment for glaucoma, a new process to produce cortisone, and a fire retardant used by the US Navy, which saved countless American lives during World War II. Throughout his distinguished career Dr. Julian was awarded an impressive 105 patents. His many scientific accomplishments led to his election as a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in 1973.

Dr. Percy's contribution to the study of science is remarkable, yet we cannot forget the racial barriers that Dr. Julian was able to overcome. Born the grandson of Alabama slaves, Dr. Julian was a civil rights pioneer. Dr. Julian was forced to fight through racial prejudice and intimidation to establish himself as a pre-eminent chemist. Let us not forget, as the first African-American family to live in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park, the Julian house was fire-bombed in 1950. And again, on June 12, 1951, the Julian house was attacked, this time with dynamite. Yet, through it all, we should not forget the courage he displayed and his perseverance.

We, as a nation, owe much to Percy Julian and it is a privilege to honor him today.

## HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, in honor of Black History Month, I welcome you to join me in commemorating the the history of Africans in the Americas. Since 1926, the month of

February has been the designated time for honoring the Black contribution. It serves as a reminder that we must be ever vigilant of the Black experience in this country, and the African roots of our shared concepts of freedom, hope, and justice. This year's theme for Black History Month is fittingly, ''From Slavery to Freedom: The Story of Africans in the Americas.''

As Chair of the Congressional Ethiopia and Ethiopian American Caucus, I am particularly interested in the history of Africans in this country. My experience with this community has taught me that the history of the Diaspora is as complex and divergent as the communities themselves. Our challenge this month is educate ourselves about the Diaspora and to understand how African Americans embrace and explore their heritage.

This February, let us broaden our understanding of the myriad ways people of African descent arrived here—beyond the slave trade. Let us be honest and open about the impact that slavery has had on African descendant communities today, but let us also celebrate the African contribution to our culture in spite of it. The best way to honor the African American experience is to educate oneself and one's community. I urge you to use this month to expose yourselves to the ways in which the African American experience has already been made a part of your life.

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 20, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we consider this important legislation to highlight several matters of critical importance within the funding allocations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA.

Over past years several of my colleagues and I have worked hard to ensure that NASA fulfills its commitment to its science mission, as well as its commitment to the excellent men and women who daily carry out NASA's cutting-edge missions. In particular, I want to acknowledge and pay tribute to my constituents at NASA Ames Research Center, one of the world's premier research facilities located in my district in California's Silicon Valley.

As we pass this continuing resolution, which we are forced to do by the inaction of the previous majority leadership, it is important that NASA recognize and adhere to the clear intent expressed by both the House and Senate under H.R. 5672, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2007, and the accompanying committee reports—House Report 109–520 and Senate Report 109–280. I would like to highlight some important points from these bills.

Within the House-passed version of H.R. 5672, Congress included the following points:

Recognizing the disproportionate reduction proposed by NASA to its research and analysis budget, a recommended $50 million increase was included.

Following NASA's misguided attempt to discontinue funding the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy, SOFIA project, the House concluded that should NASA's internal review of the program result in a recommended continuation of the program, NASA should accordingly reallocate funds to SOFIA.

Building on the priorities expressed by the House, the Senate Appropriations Committee subsequently included the following high-priority points:

In addressing NASA's management of the SOFIA project, Senate Appropriators stated:

''The budget request eliminates funding for the SOFIA mission in fiscal year 2007. Since the budget was released, NASA has completed a review of its decision and has concluded that there are no scientific or technical reasons for canceling the mission . . . This calls into question the credibility of the science directorate in making budget decisions and determining scientific priorities.

''The Committee expects NASA to come up with a plan to fund the SOFIA mission in 2007 from within available funds through a reprogramming request subject to section 505 of this act. In determining the funding strategy for this program, the Committee directs NASA to follow the recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences Decadal survey in Astronomy and Astrophysics when setting mission and budget priorities. Missions that are ranked higher in the surveys should be given priority over missions that are ranked lower in priority with launch dates.''

To ensure the protection of NASA's critical workforce, the current moratorium on involuntary reductions in force, RIF, was extended from its current expiration date of March 2007 until the end of fiscal year 2008.

These provisions are unequivocal and must be honored by NASA as such. In particular, given Congress's stated and clear questioning of NASA's guidance of the SOFIA project to date, NASA should refrain from making significant changes to SOFIA without Congress first having the opportunity to review their proposals.

Additionally, it is critical that the existing prohibition on the transfer of funds between major accounts is observed consistent with the NASA Authorization Act of 2005. The reprogramming of funds across accounts has in the past been used to change funding allocations within NASA in ways that counter the legislative intent of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, NASA and its institutional capabilities are a critical component of our Nation's high-technology research and development infrastructure and must be protected for the sake of our future innovative capability. Ensuring these provisions passed by the Congress are honored as part of this fiscal year 2007 funding process will ensure NASA's continued excellence.

## MATH AND SCIENCE INCENTIVE ACT OF 2007

### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 5, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, today I introduced with Congressmen EHLERS the Math and Science Incentive Act of 2005. This legislation would pay—over the life of the loan up to $10,000—the interest on the undergraduate student loans of math, science or engineering majors who agree to work 5 years in their respective fields. The idea for this legislation came from the book Winning the Future, by my friend and our former colleague Newt Gingrich. America's dominance in science and innovation is slipping, but this legislation can help combat this trend.

We are facing today a critical shortage of science and engineering students in the United States. Unfortunately, there is little public awareness of this trend or its implications for jobs, industry or national security in America's future. We need to make sure we have people who can fill these science and engineering positions. In an era in which students are graduating college with record levels of debt, I am hopeful that this incentive will be a significant motivator in attracting or retaining math, science and engineering students.

How do we know that our Nation is slipping in the areas of math, science, engineering and technology? Americans, for decades, led the world in patents. But we can no longer claim that lead. The percentage of U.S. patents has been steadily declining as foreigners, especially Asians, have become more active and in some fields have seized the innovation lead. The United States share of its own industrial patents now stands at only 52 percent. Foreign advances in basic science now often rival or even exceed America's. Published research by Americans is lagging.

Physical Review, a series of top physics journals, last year tracked a reversal in which American scientific papers, in two decades, dropped from the most published to minority status. In 2003—the most recent year statistics are available—the total number of American papers published was just 29 percent, down from 61 percent in 1983.

Another measuring stick: Nobel prizes. From the 1960s through the 1990s, American scientists dominated. Now the rest of the world has caught up. Our scientists win now about half of the Nobel prizes, the rest go to Britain, Japan, Russia, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and New Zealand. According to the National Science Foundation, the United States has a smaller share of the worldwide total of science and engineering doctoral degrees awarded than both Asia and Europe.

This is a real problem. In 2000, Asian universities accounted for almost 1.2 million of the world's science and engineering degrees. European universities—including Russia and eastern Europe accounted for 850,000.

North American universities accounted for only about 500,000. Since 1980, science and engineering positions in the U.S. have grown at five times the rate of positions in the civilian workforce as a whole.

The Math and Science Incentive Act augments the recently approved National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent grants—National SMART grants. National SMART grants provide grants of up to $4,000 to Pell Grant-eligible students in their third and fourth academic year of undergraduate education at a 4-year, degree-granting institution of higher education. The student must be pursuing a major in the physical, life, or computer sciences, math, technology, or engineering or a foreign language. The student must also have a grade-point average of at least 3.0.

SMART grants are an important tool for attracting and retaining lower-income students in